

December 7, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554



Re: Request for Special Temporary Authority for Galaxy 26
Call Sign: S2469

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Intelsat License LLC (“Intelsat”) herein requests Special Temporary Authority (“STA”)¹ for a period of four weeks—from 12:01 a.m. December 7, 2011 through January 4, 2012—to continue operating the Galaxy 26 satellite (Call Sign S2469) at 50.0° E.L. pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the STA granted October 6, 2011.²

On December 6, 2011, the FCC’s International Bureau (“Bureau”) granted Intelsat STA to continue operating the Galaxy 26 satellite at 50.0° E.L. with a condition that “Intelsat must operate Galaxy 26 at or below the BSS PFD limits specified in the ITU Radio Regulations, Appendix 30, Annex 1, Sections 1(a) and 4, for protection of co-frequency BSS and terrestrial operations.”³ This condition limits power to a level insufficient to support existing service.

As the Commission is aware, Galaxy 26 currently serves a U.S. military customer in the Middle East region. The entire capacity of the satellite is used on a daily basis to support multiple simultaneous unmanned aerial vehicle (“UAV”) flights. Intelsat’s customer does not have a readily available alternative and continued operation of Galaxy 26 is required to protect U.S. national security interests.

Grant of the requested STA will serve the public interest by providing time for a safe and orderly transition of service, in coordination with Intelsat’s

¹ Intelsat has filed this STA request, an FCC Form 159 and an \$860.00 filing fee electronically via the International Bureau’s Filing System.

² See *Policy Branch Information; Actions Taken*, Report No. SAT-00813, File No. SAT-STA-20110923-00185 (effective October 6, 2011; released Oct. 7, 2011) (Public Notice).

³ Intelsat License LLC, Request for Further Extension of Special Temporary Authority for Galaxy 26, Call Sign: S2469, File No. SAT-STA-20111123-00227, Condition 6.b (stamp grant with conditions, Dec. 6, 2011).

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customer and Al Yah Satellite Communications Company PrJSC (“Yahsat”). Intelsat’s counsel contacted counsel for Yahsat and raised the possibility of continued operation of Galaxy 26 for four more weeks.

For the reasons set forth herein, Intelsat respectfully requests authority for the continued operation of Galaxy 26 as described in this STA request.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kalpak Gude

Kalpak Gude
Associate General Counsel
Intelsat Corporation

cc: Robert Nelson
Kathryn Medley
Stephen Duall
Jay Whaley
John Janka, Counsel to Yahsat
Joslyn Read, New Skies Satellites B.V.